

Plan to Hire 400 Workers At Arsenal

Because of new production orders for artillery ammunition, the Joliet Arsenal recently added 300 employees to its payrolls and plans to hire another 400 to 500 men and women, it was reported today by Col. Raymond Costabile, commanding officer.

"We are attempting to build employment up to about 2,000," Col. Costabile said. "We now have approximately 1,500 to 1,600 persons working here and before we began additional hiring there were between 1,100 and 1,200 working at the Arsenal."

He said that many former workers at the Arsenal have been contacted and added that the "response has been good from both the Joliet and Kankakee areas."

MANY OF THE former women employees on the production lines have returned and "are quickly adapting themselves to the work they did when at the Arsenal before."

Reports that a large office building capable of accommodating 1,500 workers, might be erected at the Arsenal for the Field Director of Ammunition Plants office were not verified.

According to a spokesman from the office of Gen. Joel Holmes, field director, the office building is still in the planning stage in Washington, D. C., and it has not even been decided where the building will be located. There is a possibility the office building may be built in St. Louis, Mo., or several other places, altho Joliet is a prospect if the plans ever materialize.